

Application No. 10/070,123  
Filed: March 29, 2002  
TC Art Unit: 1764  
Confirmation No.: 9685

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

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1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) A fuel reformer for reforming a hydrocarbon rich gas, wherein at least a part of material composing the reformer is a material containing at least Cr, Ni, Si and Nb by Cr 17 to less than 20 mass %, Ni ~~8 greater than 10 up to and including 14~~ mass %, Si ~~2 greater than 3 up to and including 4~~ mass %, Nb 0.05 to 0.5 mass %, and the remaining ingredients include Fe and inevitable impurities (C, Mn, P, S or others).

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) The fuel reformer according to claim 3, wherein a portion that is contacted by steam and raw fuel introduced from a raw fuel inlet of the reformer ~~and steam contact~~ is composed of said material.

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8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently amended) The fuel reformer according to claim 7, wherein a portion that is heated and is contacted by steam and raw fuel introduced from a raw fuel inlet of the reformer and steam contact and which is a heated portion is composed of said material.

10. (New) A fuel reformer for reforming a hydrocarbon rich gas, the reformer comprising at least one of a catalyst tube, a reforming tube inner cylinder, and a reforming tube inner cylinder upper plate, wherein at least one of the said at least one tube, cylinder and plate comprises a single layer of material containing at least Cr, Ni, Si and Nb by Cr 17 to less than 20 mass %, Ni greater than 10 up to and including 14 mass %, Si greater than 3 up to and including 4 mass %, Nb 0.05 to 0.5 mass %, and the remaining ingredients include Fe and inevitable impurities (C, Mn, P, S or others).